

# Interagency Council on Homelessness

MINUTES

DATE: 8/1/2017

TIME: 9:30a – 11:30a CST

<b>FACILITATOR(S)</b>	Mike Dunthorn – City of Knoxville and Abigail Dowell - TDMHSAS
<b>MEMBER ATTENDEES</b>	Jenna Robl – TDMHSAS, Justine Bass – TDMHSAS, Laura Alvarez – TDOC, Judith Tackett – Davidson County Metropolitan Homelessness Commission, Deon Trotter – Davidson County Metropolitan Homelessness Commission, Todd Skelton – Governor’s Office, Don Watt – THDA, Michael Myszka – Bureau of TennCare, Justin Singleton – TDOE, Marissa Whitsett – Alliance Healthcare Services in Memphis (CABHI), Scott Foster – Murfreesboro CoC, Debbie Hillin – Buffalo Valley CoC, Jimmy Catlett – Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System (CABHI), Stanley Taylor – Tennessee Valley CoC, Brian Stephens – TDCS, Paul Hines – TDLWD, Whitney Page – TDHS, Stephanie Jarnigan – TDHS, Mark Breece – TDVS, Michael Salazar – HUD, Suzie Tolmie – MDHA/Nashville CoC, Jessica Carlton – Helen Ross McNabb (CABHI), Terry Burdette – HART CoC, Wayne Snelling – West TN CoC, Michelle Daly – SAMHSA; Nikki Edney – Centerstone Research Institute
<b>ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES</b>	Jackie Jones – MTSU, Connie Farmer – Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System, Robyn Butterfield – Alliance Healthcare in Memphis

Agenda topics

## 1. APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES

<b>APPROVED/DENIED</b>	Unanimous approval
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## 2. THDA UPDATE AND PRESENTATION

<b>FOLLOW-UP ITEMS</b>	<p>Don Watt shared information regarding several THDA programs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ESG Awards were announced in May 2017 – Awarded over \$2.8M to organizations outside of Nashville, Chattanooga and Memphis which receive their own allocation of ESG funds from HUD. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slightly over 50% of the funds will be used for rapid re-housing activities</li> <li>With balance of funds used to support prevention, street outreach, shelter, and data collection activities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>THDA also learned in mid-July that HUD has allocated an additional \$677,000 in ESG Supplemental funding. We are working through our process now to determine how these ESG resources will be allocated.</li> <li>The 2017 Spring Round of the Competitive Grants Program was announced on May 31. Five projects were funded, with two particularly closely associated with the Council’s efforts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A \$500,000 grant was made to Dismas House to construct a 42-unit building that will house 70 ex-offenders.</li> <li>A \$390,000 grant was made to Helen Ross McNabb for the new construction of 10 units of PSH in Knoxville for homeless veterans with mental health and substance use issues.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Our 2018 Fall Round Competitive Grants Program Description was approved last week by the THDA Board. In addition to continuing to provide a priority for ex-offenders and youth aging out of foster care, the 2018 Fall Round also includes priority points for projects which will target homeless veterans. Additionally, the program will continue to provide points for projects which set-aside a portion of the units for households at 30% and 50% of AMI. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applications will be due on September 28 at 4:00 PM.</li> <li>Two application workshops will be held – one in Nashville on August 9 at 1:00 PM and then a second will be a webinar at 9:00 AM on August 15. Further information about both will be on our web site later this week.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Finally, the THDA Board has approved the Program Description for the National Housing Trust Fund.</li> </ol>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides development funding for rental housing for households at 30% of AMI or less.</li> <li>• Program has a 30-year compliance period through which units must meet program requirements.</li> <li>• Scoring criteria will encourage the development of housing that has project-based rental assistance tied to the project – Section 8; VASH, CoC.</li> <li>• Application workshop will be held shortly after Labor Day. Applications will be due on December 15<sup>th</sup> with awards made by March 31.</li> <li>• Grant period will extend from May 1, 2018 – April 30, 2021.</li> </ul>
<b>FOLLOW-UP ITEMS</b>	<b>Attached is a flyer for the Fall Housing Trust Fund application workshops</b>

### 3. GOVERNOR'S REPORT REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The draft annual report to the Governor regarding the work of the Council and the implementation of the Plan was sent to the Council prior to the meeting for initial review.</li> <li>• The floor was opened for any feedback or questions</li> <li>• It was suggested to add in some information from SOAR and THDA regarding individuals re-entering the community from a Department of Corrections institution.</li> <li>• Other edits were sent prior to the meeting and incorporated</li> <li>• With this information added, the annual report will be sent to Commissioner Williams of TDMHSAS who will submit it to the Governor</li> </ul>
<b>FOLLOW-UP ITEMS</b>	<p><b>Don Watt will send housing information to Abigail</b></p> <p><b>Abigail will f/up with NaaDzama Oddoye, Statewide SOAR Facilitator, regarding SOAR application information.</b></p>

### 4. HOUSING WORK DAY OUTCOME

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A brief overview of the May 17<sup>th</sup> facilitated work day and June 14<sup>th</sup> work day was provided to the Council as a reminder of the purpose and need.</li> <li>• A presentation was given regarding the outcome of the work days and the desire for the Council to approve and provide support towards leveraging existing State resources to create affordable housing.</li> <li>• During the presentation a discussion was had regarding the need to bolster the information regarding the statewide need for affordable housing and the definition that we are using regarding “affordable”</li> <li>• Waiting Lists – Some Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) do not having lists because they had become too long and cumbersome. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Information about waiting lists that could be helpful: How many days to being housed once on the list? How many vouchers have to be returned due to a lack of landlords and housing that is affordable even with the voucher?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• What does “deeply affordable” mean? Consider a better way to define it <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Use standard cost burden definition of 30% of AMI</li> <li>◦ Don will review other competitive grants to see if there’s a specific statement they use</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The presentation can be used by the Council at PHA public meetings and THDA Board meetings or public meetings requesting public comment for the 9% Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Qualitative Action Plan (QAP)</li> <li>• It was suggested and agreed that local, non-council, individuals should not be publicly sharing council authority when request preferences or set-asides; however, the council can provide data and information that will be helpful for other individuals and agencies advocate for homeless preferences and set-asides, as well as, note that the Council is advocating for this and they are in agreement with the Council.</li> </ul>
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<b>COUNCIL VOTES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council voted on two items after the presentation.</li> <li>• <b>It was voted and approved that the Council will advocate for and support the advocacy of a special needs preference or set aside for the 9% LIHTC and at PHAs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Todd Skelton and Don Watts recused themselves from the vote given their roles with THDA.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• It was suggested to draft a letter or memo to send to PHAs regarding the need to provide preferences to homeless individuals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <b>This was voted and approved by the Council</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>FOLLOW-UP ITEMS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abigail will update the presentation based on Council feedback</li> <li>• Don will look into other grants utilizing the term “deeply affordable”</li> <li>• Abigail will draft a memo/letter to PHAs for the Council to review and provide input</li> </ul>

## 5. DATA CONVERSATION

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As the implementation of the Plan moves forward, the need for strong measurements to show progress increases.</li> <li>• In order to do this, stronger data is required. This currently something that is being discussed and worked through in the Data Workgroup but a discussion with the Council is required in order to better understand what data is needed and what data is available.</li> <li>• Additionally, TDMHSAS is in the process of contracting with Bowman and is hoping for a fall implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ There have been several conversations with CoCs regarding this project with more to follow.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The following questions were posed to the group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ For State Departments: What information would be helpful to you to inform programs and policies?</li> <li>◦ What information does the different state departments have that can be shared and used to help CoCs and other state departments?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Open Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THDA – To look directly at the outcomes coming from ESG – Exit numbers and long-term stability of households</li> <li>• DoC – How many individuals with a felony convictions are being served through CoCs</li> <li>• Discussion of the difficulty obtaining affordable housing inventory. There is a disconnect between price and income causing housing to be cost burdensome for many – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Murfreesboro suggested utilizing marketplace housing turnover rates. Determine the number of homes available to serve individuals in different brackets of income</li> <li>◦ Consider educating on how wide the housing continuum is and the mismatch between population and what’s available.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Highlight what works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Housing and Supports</li> <li>◦ Show the recidivism rates for the programs that work.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Look at eligibility criteria and compare to individuals being screened out of housing.</li> <li>• Dept of Education offered data on graduation rates</li> <li>• Compare the Education homeless definition to the HUD homeless definition</li> <li>• How do we pull data using different definitions?</li> <li>• Utilize city and national studies regarding the services and systems used by homeless individuals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Vanderbilt study on the breakdown of systems homeless individuals are accessing</li> <li>◦ Knoxville did a chronic homelessness study</li> <li>◦ USICH studies of national numbers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>FOLLOW-UP ITEMS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

**Next Meeting: October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 from 9:30a to 11:30a CST**

All Council meetings will occur the last Tuesday of the month once a quarter unless otherwise discussed in advance due to a major conflict of the majority of the Council.

January 30, 2018 from 9:30a to 11:30a CST

April 24, 2018 from 9:30a to 11:30a CST

July 31, 2018 from 9:30a to 11:30a CST